

# INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE REVIEW

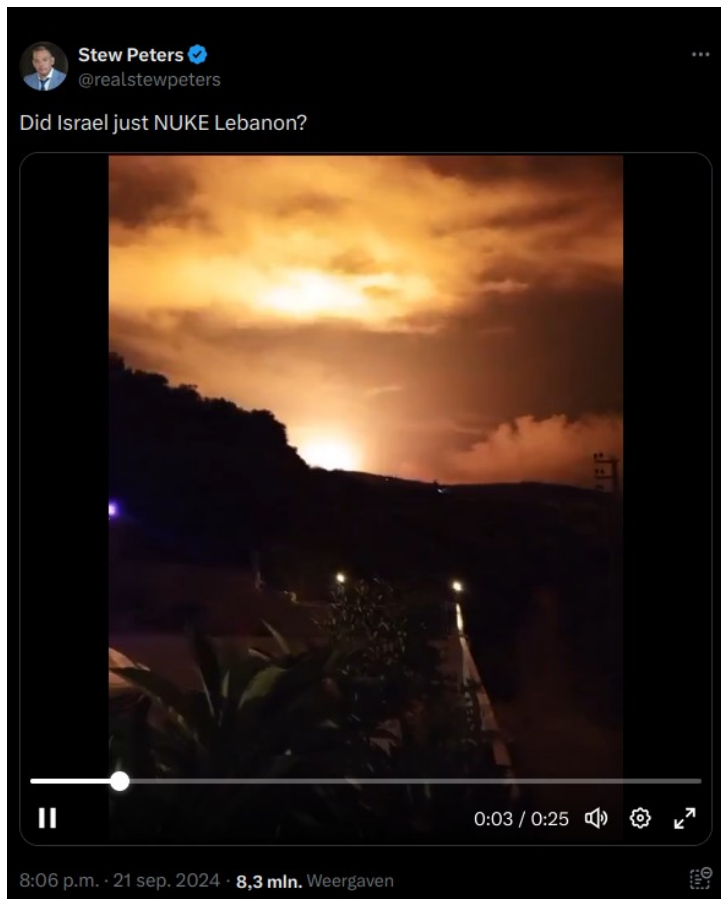


Editor: René Oudeweg

**Bulletin #59:** Speculation about US involvement in the presumed small tactical nuclear strike in Lebanon.

First:

Footage appeared on Telegram<sup>1</sup> on September 21 2024 of a heavy shockwave following a large bomb dropped presumably on Hezbollah area.



Few viewers could confirm it as a tactical nuclear strike, most of them dismissed the question.

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1 <https://x.com/realstewpeters/status/1837554098528260560>

The second footage<sup>2</sup> appeared:



<sup>2</sup> <https://x.com/HBFNBR/status/1837577137814962682>

It is not clear if the second footage is the same explosion, but it certainly looks like a small nuclear explosion. The vertical fire column indicates in that direction. Several conventional explosions can be seen left and right that could be a 'decoy' to divert attention and deny the use of a small tactical nuke.

Questions: does Israel have small tactical nukes?

Unclear, but the US would probably be aware of it and maybe they are of US origin.  
(speculation)

Motive: would the US use the South of Hezbollah controlled area in Lebanon as a military 'test site' for the deployment of small nuclear warheads on the battlefield? Given the gravity on the various war fronts, and given the war drive, this hypothesis can not be ruled out.

I recall the following article on common objectives of CENTCOM and Israel:

[al-monitor.com](https://www.al-monitor.com)

## CENTCOM chief in Israel again as tensions on Lebanon border increase

Rina Bassist

3–4 minutes

Sep 9, 2024



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US Central Command chief Michael Kurilla arrived in Israel on Sunday for meetings with senior Israeli security officials in a visit focusing on potential threats from Lebanon-based Hezbollah and Iran.

The visit by the top commander of US military forces in the Middle East came against the backdrop of continued exchanges of fire between Hezbollah and the Israeli military. Former Israel war cabinet minister Benny Gantz warns that war with Hezbollah could be imminent if Israel does not soon reach a deal for a hostage release cease-fire with Hamas in Gaza.

Shortly after landing, Kurilla met with Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and with Israeli military chief Herzi Halevi. Gallant said he discussed with Kurilla "the operational and strategic situation in the region," adding that together they "reflected on ways to further strengthen interoperability to achieve our common objectives. Israeli and American troops work closely together to deter common threats posed by Iran and its proxies."

Later on, Kurilla met with Northern Command chief Ori Gordin, where the Israeli military said he was "presented with the IDF's operational plans for Lebanon." The Israeli military added that it will "continue to deepen its relationship with the US Armed Forces, due to our commitment to strengthening regional stability and the coordination between the militaries." He is expected to meet with additional senior Israeli security figures on Monday.

On Monday afternoon, Hezbollah took responsibility for a rocket and drone barrage fired at the north of Israel earlier in the day. At least 25 rockets and drones were launched. One of the drones hit the 14th floor of a high-rise building in the border city of Nahariya. No injuries were reported. Hezbollah claimed it had fired on an Israeli military base in retaliation for Israeli fire in the south of Lebanon. The strikes also sparked some fires in the Upper Galilee region. Later in the day, the Israeli air force reportedly struck targets in the south of Lebanon.

After Monday's attack, Halevi said, "The strike on a building in Nahariya is a serious incident, as is the fire against citizens in the north. The Israeli military operates in the northern region powerfully, and is prepared with operational plans. The military is ready to take upon every mission it will be tasked with."

### **Gantz in Washington**

Addressing the Middle East America Dialogue summit in Washington, Gantz warned on Sunday, "The time for [action in] the north has come."

“We are late on this,” he added, explaining, “We need to ensure that we can return residents to their homes. We can achieve this goal even if it requires striking Lebanon itself. Unfortunately, I don’t see another way.”

Gantz said that Israel should shift its focus from the Gaza war in the south toward Hezbollah and the Lebanese border in the north. “The story of Hamas is old news. The story of Iran and its proxies all around the area and what they are trying to do is the real issue.”

Still, the National Unity leader said he would prefer to [reach a deal with Hamas](#) for the release of the hostages and a Gaza cease-fire, restoring at least a temporary calm, even if it meant forgoing a major operation against Hezbollah in the north.